# Power Reading Comic Book/Classic/Jungle Book

National Reading Styles Institute, Inc.

Copyright - 2005 ISBN - 1-883186-74-9 CLC2 (T or CD) Edition - First

Grade Level P4 - 3rd Grade

Readability Level 3

Course / Content Handwriting

Language Arts
Literature
Reading
Speech
Spelling

Teaching Reading to ESL

Writing

List Price: 59.95

The features of each book or program were developed by the publisher and do not reflect the opinion of the Kentucky State Review Team Kentucky State Textbook Commission or the Kentucky Department of Education.

Content

Power Reading Comics tell the same story that the longer versions tell, with fewer words, more illustrations and written on a lower level. The classic stories include Wizard of Oz, The Jungle Book, Treasure Island. The Sci-Fi stories include Dr. Little, Superhero and Time Warp. Power Reading Comics consist of audio-recorded chapters (6 for Sci-Fi and 12 for Classics) on audiocassettes or CDs (3 for Sci-Fi and 6 for Classics). All Comics are audio-recorded, using the Carbo method of recording. They come with games and writing activities that provide practice in reading and writing skills.

**Student Experiences** 

The low-readability of the Comics allows the struggling student to follow the story line, aided by the slow-paced audio recordings and snappy illustrations. The struggling reader will read the comics first, and then move on to the more difficult and longer chapter book, with more motivation and better prepared to succeed. Both the Classic Chapter Books and Comics include reproducible questions, games and writing activities that provide practice in recalling facts and details, vocabulary in context, drawing conclusions, sequencing events, identifying the setting, predicting outcomes, fact or opinion, essay writing, dialogue writing, creative writing, descriptive writing, letter writing, journal writing, retelling.

Assessment

Fluency standards, instructions for measuring and Fluency Rate chart are included with the Comics. Another chart allows for entering a comprehension score, based on performance on questions. An Answer Key is provided.

Organization

Every Power Reading Comics title comes in a binder, containing black-line masters of the story divided into chapters that correspond to the same chapters in the regular story. After each chapter there are questions based on the previous chapter or group of chapters, which provide practice in skills that accommodate state standards. The questions provide practice and focus on grade-appropriate skills. If more than one student wants to listen to the same Comics story, the text may be reproduced and the audiocassette can be used in a listening center.

Resource Materials

An Answer Key to the questions and reproducible Record-Keeping Charts of student progress, along with instructions and recommendations to the teacher are included.

Gratis Items to be provided and under what conditions

N/A

**Available Ancillary Materials** 

Power Reading Assessment Kit contains 24 leveled, audio-recorded, illustrated Power Reading stories, with line-by-line word counts to assess reading fluency and the best Power Reading level for a particular student. Also allows for scoring comprehension a

#### Research Data and Evidence of Effectiveness

Disclaimer: the research data and evidence of effectiveness was provided by the publisher and does not reflect the opinion of the State Review Team, the State Textbook Commission, or the Kentucky Department of Education.

Research Available

YES - provide information below

There is a compelling body of research available on our Website at www.nrsi.com.

## Overall Strength and/or Weaknesses

**Disclaimer**: Comments on the strengths and/or weaknesses of each book, material or program were written by members of the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team and reflect their opinions. They do not reflect the opinions of the State Textbook Commission nor the Kentucky Department of Education. In addition, the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team completed each evaluation form during summer of 2005. In order to maintain the integrity of the review team's comments, editing was limited to spelling and punctuation.

Recommendations:

This item was evaluated as part of the complete set of National Reading Styles Institute (NRSI) materials. It is recommended that all of the NRSI titles be included on the Kentucky State Textbook Adoption List as a supplemental reading program.

#### **Summary Form**

- I. Technology Component Summary

  Each story is recorded at a slow reading rate in an audio cassette and CD format.

  There is not an interactive technology component for students. It is strictly a listening component. The managament program is not available on CD for teacher use.
- II. Reading Content Summary
  The Power Reading Program offers a variety of fiction stories. Also, a good variety of comprehension questions appear after each story. Games give students opportunity to practice more reading skills.
  Only fiction stories are included.
- Writing Content Summary
   Opportunities are included for students to respond in writing on some of the extended activities.
   The focus of this program is to improve reading fluency and comprehension. It is not a total language arts program. The writing process is not taught and writing prompts are limited.
- IV. Grammar and Spelling Content Summary

  The focus of this program is to improve reading fluency. It is not a total language arts program. Some grammar and spelling skills are found in practice materials, but are not directly taught.
- V. Listening /Speaking / Observing Content Summary
   The format requires students to learn to listen, observe and repeat reading tasks.

   Could not find any opportunities for students to do extended projects connected to reading stories to share with class.
- VI. Inquiry Content Summary
  No inquiry component found.
- VII. Technology Content Summary
  Students are given opportunities to listen to each story at a slow reading speed.
  No student interactive component, and no teacher management program.
- VIII. Audience: Teacher Materials Content Summary

  Background research can be found online.

  The Teacher's Guide consists of about seven pages found in the appendix of the Power Reading notebooks.

IX. Audience: Student Materials Content Summary

1.17

A clear focus is present on improving reading fluency and comprehension with some writing, vocabulary development and spelling included in some of the extension activities on blackline masters. Only fiction stories.

X. Format Content Summary

1.67

The format is age-appropriate.

Black and white format and redundant daily routine could become boring for some students.

XI. Ancillary Materials Content Summary

1.00

Not a lot of different materials needed to begin this reading program.

Integrations are not made to other subject areas. Teacher resources are very limited.

#### READING CONTENT

Only nonfiction texts are included.

#### WRITING CONTENT

Writing skills are not taught directly and are not found in all levels of the Power Reading series.

#### GRAMMAR AND SPELLING

The Power Reading Program is a reading development program, not a total language arts program.

#### LISTENING / SPEAKING / OBSERVING

This program requires that students listen to stories, then respond by answering comprehension questions. The speaking component comes into play if the teacher asks students to respond orally to stories.

# **INQUIRY**

NO INQUIRY COMPONENT FOUND IN THIS READING PROGRAM.

#### TECHNOLOGY CONTENT

Audio CDs and cassettes of taped stories are included with this program for student use.

#### **AUDIENCE: TEACHER MATERIALS**

Very limited.

Assessment does not include state-like assessments, but it is appropriate for finding the appropriate level for placement in this program and for testing reading fluency.

Some of the research information is located online. It is stated in the introduction to the Power Reading materials that teachers may receive training on how to use materials by attending a seminar, on-site staff development and national seminar.

The focus is on reading fluency and comprehension.

Research information and NRSI material information can be found online.

The teacher's guide consists of about a seven-page appendix.

## **AUDIENCE: STUDENT MATERIALS**

Only fiction selections are included, but many appear to be of a high interest nature.

Handwriting skills appear in the Letterville Phonics Program.

The emphasis is on reading development.

Writing activities are very limited.

The focus of this program is on teaching reading development. It is not a total language arts program.

### **FORMAT**

Story texts are found on blackline masters.

The format lacks color since the stories are on blackline masters, but they are organized in age-appropriate type.

# **ANCILLARY MATERIALS**

Limited to research and available materials.

There are not many teacher resource materials included in this program, but the blackline masters and audio cassettes or CDs are all that are really needed to implement this reading program.